

Response

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A rug having an underside surface detachably attached ~~attachable~~ to and in direct contact with a step, said rug comprising in combination:
 - a) a bendable layer of material;
 - b) one of a first hook fastener and a first loop fastener secured to said underside surface;
 - c) one of a second hook fastener and a second loop fastener secured to said underside surface;
 - d) another of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener in ~~adapted for~~ direct attachment with ~~with~~ ~~to~~ the step;
 - e) another of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener in ~~adapted for~~ direct attachment with ~~with~~ ~~to~~ the riser;
 - f) at least one of a first female snap lock and a first male snap lock secured to said underside surface and extending from said underside surface of said rug;
 - g) at least one of a second female snap lock and a second male snap lock secured to said underside surface and extending from said underside surface of said rug;

h) another of said first female snap lock and said first male snap lock in adapted
~~for~~ direct attachment directly with and not extending into the surface of [[to]] the step; and

i) another of said second female snap lock and said second male snap lock in
~~adapted for~~ direct attachment directly with and not extending into the surface of [[to]] the riser.

2-3. **(Cancelled)**

4. **(Previously Amended)** A rug as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said layer of
material is rectangular and including four corners.

5. **(Previously Amended)** A rug as set forth in Claim 4 wherein each of said first
female snap lock of a pair of said first female snap locks is disposed in at least one corner of two
of said four corners and each second female snap lock of a pair of said second female snap locks
being disposed in at least one corner of two of said four corners.

6. **(Previously Amended)** A rug as set forth in Claim 2 wherein said one of said first
hook fastener and said first loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of first female snap
locks and wherein one of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener is disposed
intermediate said pair of second female snap locks.

7. **(Original)** A rug as set forth in Claim 6 wherein said first loop fastener is

disposed intermediate said pair of first female snap locks and wherein said second loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of second female snap locks.

8. **(Previously Amended)** A rug as set forth in Claim 4 wherein each snap lock of one of two first pairs of male and female snap locks is disposed in at least one corner of two of said four corners and each snap lock of one of two second pairs of male and female snap locks is disposed in at least one corner of two further corners of said four corners.

9. **(Original)** A rug as set forth in Claim 8 wherein one of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener is disposed intermediate said snap locks of said two first pairs of snap locks and wherein one of said second hook fastener and said loop fastener is disposed intermediate said snap locks of said two second pairs of snap locks.

10. **(Original)** A rug as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said other of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener includes a layer of adhesive for adherence to the step and wherein said other of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener includes a layer of adhesive for adherence to the riser.

11. **(Previously Amended)** A rug as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said other of said first female snap lock and said first male snap lock include a layer of adhesive for adherence to the step and wherein said other of said second female snap lock and said second male snap lock include a layer of adhesive for adherence to the riser.

12. **(Original)** A rug as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said other of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener include a layer of adhesive for adhering to the step and wherein said other of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener include a layer of adhesive for adherence to the riser.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A method for detachably attaching the underside of a rug to a step wherein the depth of the step is less than the width of the rug, said method comprising the steps of:

a) attaching at least one of a female snap lock and a male snap lock extending from the underside of the rug to another of a male snap lock and a female snap lock extending directly from the surface of the step and without penetrating the surface of the step;

b) further attaching at least one of a female snap lock and a male snap lock extending from the underside of the rug to another of a male snap lock and a female snap lock extending directly from the surface of the riser and without penetrating the surface of the riser;

c) engaging one of a hook fastener and a loop fastener secured to the rug with another of a hook fastener and a loop fastener attached directly to the step; and

d) further engaging one of a hook fastener and a loop fastener secured to the rug with another of a hook fastener and a loop fastener attached directly to the riser.

14. **(Cancelled)**

15. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 including the step of bending the

rug around the edge of the step into proximity with the riser.

16. **(Cancelled)**

17. **(Previously Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 including the step of adhering one of a hook fastener and a loop fastener to the step.

18. **(Previously Amended)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 including the step of adhering one of a hook fastener and a loop fastener to the riser.

19. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 including the step of adhering at least one of the female snap lock and the male snap lock to the step.

20. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 13 including the step of adhering at least one of the male snap lock and the female snap locks to the riser.

21-23. **(Cancelled)**

24. **(New)** A rug having an underside surface detachably attached to and in direct contact with a supporting surface, said rug comprising in combination:

a) a layer of material;

b) one of a first hook fastener and a first loop fastener secured to said underside

surface of said rug;

c) one of a second hook fastener and a second loop fastener secured to said underside surface of said rug;

d) another of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener in direct attachment with the supporting surface;

e) another of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener in direct attachment with the supporting surface;

f) at least one of a first female snap lock and a first male snap lock secured to said underside surface of said rug and extending from said underside surface of said rug;

g) at least one of a second female snap lock and a second male snap lock secured to said underside surface of said rug and extending from said underside surface of said rug;

h) another of said first female snap lock and said first male snap lock in direct attachment directly with the supporting surface and not extending thereinto; and

i) another of said second female snap lock and said second male snap lock in direct attachment directly with the supporting surface and not extending thereinto.

25. **(New)** A rug as set forth in Claim 24 wherein said layer of material is rectangular and including four corners.

26. **(New)** A rug as set forth in Claim 25 wherein each of said first female snap lock of a pair of said first female snap locks is disposed in at least one corner of two of said four corners and each second female snap lock of a pair of said second female snap locks being

disposed in at least one corner of two of said four corners.

27. (New) A rug as set forth in Claim 24 wherein said one of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of first female snap locks and wherein one of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of second female snap locks.

28. (New) A rug as set forth in Claim 27 wherein said first loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of first female snap locks and wherein said second loop fastener is disposed intermediate said pair of second female snap locks.

29. (New) A rug as set forth in Claim 25 wherein each snap lock of one of two first pairs of male and female snap locks is disposed in at least one corner of two of said four corners and each snap lock of one of two second pairs of male and female snap locks is disposed in at least one corner of two further corners of said four corners.

30. (New) A rug as set forth in Claim 29 wherein one of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener is disposed intermediate said snap locks of said two first pairs of snap locks and wherein one of said second hook fastener and said loop fastener is disposed intermediate said snap locks of said two second pairs of snap locks.

31. (New) A rug as set forth in Claim 24 wherein said one of said first hook fastener

and said first loop fastener includes a layer of adhesive for adherence to the supporting surface and wherein said other of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener includes a layer of adhesive for adherence to the underside surface of said rug.

32. **(New)** A rug as set forth in Claim 24 wherein said one of said first female snap lock and said first male snap lock include a layer of adhesive for adherence to the supporting surface and wherein said other of said second female snap lock and said second male snap lock include a layer of adhesive for adherence to the underside surface of said rug.

33. **(New)** A rug as set forth in Claim 32 wherein said one of said first hook fastener and said first loop fastener include a layer of adhesive for adhering to the supporting surface and wherein said other of said second hook fastener and said second loop fastener include a layer of adhesive for adherence to the underside surface of said rug.